

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the first paragraph on page 1 with the following amended paragraph.

-- This application is a continuation of U.S. application Ser. No. 10/445,394 filed May 23, 2003, an application which is a ~~continuation-in-part~~ continuation of U.S. application Ser. No. 10/437,663 filed May 13, 2003, an application which is a continuation of International Application PCT/IL01/01050 filed Nov. 13, 2001, which application claims the benefit of U.S. provisional application 60/248,447 filed Nov. 14, 2000. ~~This application~~ Application Ser. No. 10/445,394 also claims the benefit of U.S. provisional application 60/382,341 filed May 23, 2002. The entire content of each application is expressly incorporated herein by reference thereto. --

Please amend paragraph [0087] as follows:

-- The gel matrices according to the invention comprise hyaluronic acid in the range of about 0.05% to about 5% (w/v) and laminin in the range of about 0.005% to about 0.5% (w/v). More preferable ranges of hyaluronic acid are from about 0.1% to 2%. These amounts result in a preferred ratio of hyaluronic acid to laminin that is in the range of about 20:1 to about 400:1. The selection of the preferable ranges depends on the intended use. --